

Procurement Works

A Newsletter from the Maryland Department of Health (MDH)
Office of Procurement and Support Services (OPASS)

January 2018



From the Attorney General

MDH is fortunate to have access to legal advice from some of the finest assistants working in the Office of the Attorney General, Brian Frosh. Courtesy of MDH Assistant Attorney General Stephen LeGendre, here's a list of 2017 rulings of the Maryland State Board of Contract Appeals:

American Powerzone, Inc., MSBCA No. 3017. The Procurement Officer has wide discretion in determining capability to perform, and the integrity and reliability to assure performance.

Chesapeake Turf, LLC, MSBCA 3051. In its initial submission, a responsive bidder must correctly identify a Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) that is both available and eligible.

Control Sources, LLC, MSBCA 2978. An unreasonably low bid may be rejected.

Gantech, Inc., MSBCA 3021 and 3023. The State need not conduct oral presentations.

Infosys Public Services, Inc., MSBCA 3003. An offeror must accurately complete the MBE utilization affidavit and utilization schedule, with no opportunity to cure even minor irregularities.

Masabi, LLC, MSBCA 3039. Bid protestors must be represented by counsel and protests must be filed within 7 days of discovery of grounds.

Netorian, LLC, MSBCA 3028. A Task Order under a CATS+ Master Contract may be protested.

Occupational Health Centers of the Southwest, PA d/b/a Concentra Medical Centers, MSBCA 2996, 3014 and 4016. The incumbent vendor holds no special status.

Preamerica, LLC, MSBCA 3036 and 3040. Failure to waive a minor pricing mistake is unreasonable.

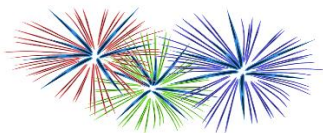
For more info on these or other MSBCA decisions, contact OPASS or go to the MSBCA website.

Bi-Annual Procurement Meeting

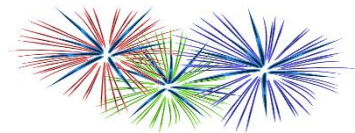
The next MDH Bi-Annual Procurement Meeting is scheduled from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, January 11, 2017 in the auditorium at 300 West Preston Street, Baltimore 21201. Come learn about recent changes in MD procurement as well as emerging future procurement trends.

Training Announcement

OPASS offers a variety of procurement training programs which are advertised by e-mail to the OPASS Announcement Group as well as the video monitors at MDH HQ. You can sign-up for those training programs thru the HUB. For registration assistance, contact: Naisadh [Nick] Desai at Naishadh.desai@maryland.gov.



Happy New Year!



The Maryland Equity & Inclusion Leadership Program (MEILP)

MEILP is a program designed for professionals who are interested in making their organizations more equitable and inclusive. Through interactive presentations and activities, the program aims to engage, educate, and support current and emerging leaders to develop diversity-based initiatives within their respective organizations. The 2017 inaugural class included over 30 participants, including the 4 MDH employees shown below. Congratulations to all the MEILP Graduates.



Left to Right - Stephanie Slowly (Minority Health Disparities), Dorothy Sheu and Alice Bauman (Office of Population Health Improvement), Calvin T. Johnson (Office of Procurement and Support Services).

Use Current Forms

The last OPASS Newsletter explained why procurement forms are constantly changing. One of the three procurement control agencies for MDH recently put into place a brand new updated template for RFPs. Whenever using a form template, make sure that you have accessed the most recent version by obtaining it anew at https://health.maryland.gov/pages/sf_dcpf.aspx. OPASS is in the process of reorganizing and updating all forms, so please try to stay current.

Plan Ahead

The Board of Public Works (BPW) likes to set contract start dates no sooner than the occurrence of two BPW meetings following contract award approval. The Department of Budget and Manage (DBM) has to present its Agenda to BPW a month before that meeting. That means that there are two months tacked onto the back end of the procurement process to allow time for completion. Don't wait until the last minute, creating unnecessary emergencies.